THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999, seeking to provide an additional facility of voting through the system of proxy at elections to the members of the Armed Forces, etc. was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 9.12.1999. The Bill was examined by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs and its report was presented to the House on 19.4.2001. The Bill is now pending for consideration and passing by the Houses of Parliament.

Pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

393. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very large number of cases are pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of pending cases as on 31st December, 2001;

(c) whether Government have decided to release the details about the status of pending cases on Internet to provide the litigants and lawyers updated information of the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The pendency of cases in the Supreme Court is on the decline. Therefore, it is not a fact that very large number of cases are pending in the Supreme Court of India. However, the pendency of cases is quite large in the High Courts. A statement in this regard is enclosed (*see* below).

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court of India and Delhi High Court are providing the status of the cases pending before it on Internet for information of the litigants and lawyers. Some of the High Courts like High Courts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bombay, Calcutta & Himachal Pradesh are in the process of developing and testing a software for providing the case status information of the pending cases.

Statement

Details of pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

Sl.	Name of the Court	Number of cases pending	As on
	Supreme Court	22,551	22.2.2002
	High Courts:—		
1.	Allahabad	8,67,584	6/2001
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1,45,948	12/2001
3.	Bombay	2,94,915	12/2000
4.	Calcutta	2,82,808	3/2001
5.	Delhi	1,78,001	12/2000
6.	Gauhati	41,317	3/2001
7.	Gujarat	1,41,046	9/2001
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15,604	3/2001
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	32,762	6/2001
10.	Karnataka	85,744	12/2001
11.	Kerala	4,05,469	6/2001
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1,17,141	6/2001
13.	Madras	3,50,107	12/2000
14.	Orissa	1,29,822	6/2001
15.	Patna	78,595	6/2001
16.	Punjab & Haryana	2,33,370	6/2001
17.	Rajasthan	1,32,306	12/2000
18.	Sikkim	122	9/2001
19.	Chhattisgarh		(Newly created High Court)
20.	Jharkhand	18,552	12/2001
21.	Uttaranchal		(Newly created High Court)
	TOTAL	35,51,213	